

To appreciate the value of teleservices, one only has to visit his local Department of Motor Vehicles, Post Office or wait in line or on "hold for the next available customer service representative." To all for whom time is money, pay-per-call to access government is an attractive and economical option.

It is not a new idea that those most benefiting from government services should pay a charge. For nearly forty years, gasoline taxes and license fees have, in whole or in part, financed state and federal highway systems.

Why do trucks pay higher fees than automobiles? Everyone seems to accept the logic of the answer: they use the highways more and wear them out faster.

It is difficult to determine why it has taken so long for government to serve its "customers" with efficient pay-per-call applications.

Perhaps citizens had become too accustomed to free access, free information and even free publications from their governments.

Ironically, we have come to accept that banks and other businesses bill for a myriad of services which were once free-of-charge. Customers now accept that service, and more specifically "fast" and "express" services, have monetary value.

The Contract with America, passed by the new majority in Congress, cuts the cost of government by reducing services. Deferring costs by requiring users to pay for "instant" service may be the only way for some government agencies to justify their continuance.

Another boost to government lethargy has been the bad rap given the 900 industry through its early and nearly-exclusive use as an adult service.

Because of the industry's own determined efforts to protect its services from improper and illegal usage, adult services using 900 numbers virtually have disappeared. Most applications that utilize a 900 number now fall under the category of Business-to-Business Teleservices.

Today, every touch-tone telephone is a miniature market. With access to 800 and 900 numbers, callers can order merchandise, obtain personal bank balances, have their voices heard or their votes tallied, and be talked through astonishingly complete menus for ordering an amazing array of goods and services.

Once again, the private sector has embraced a new technology, enhanced it with countless unique and practical innovations, significantly improved lives and created profits.

Now it is past time for government to assess its own timid samplings, to observe the widespread public uses and applications, and to bring to citizens and taxpayers the efficiencies and economies of broader use of pay-per-call services.

100 BLACK MEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 100 Black Men of Jackson, MS who hosted the 100 Black Men of America National Convention July 10 through 15, 1995 in Jackson, MS. This organization is a welcome force in the Jackson community. Members volunteer their time and effort to work with economically disadvantaged youths. They visit schools, take students to their place of

employment and entertainment events that introduce them to a segment of life that they would not ordinarily get an opportunity to come in contact with. Members of the Jackson, MS chapter include college presidents, a congressman, businessmen, clergymen, doctors, lawyers, and many other professionals.

The national organization was founded in 1976, and strives to improve the quality of life for African-Americans and other minorities. This organization, not only defines problems but attacks them head on. Through its mentoring program, the organization serves as role models for low-income African-American males from single parent households. Many of these youths are becoming first generation college students.

The African-American community is plagued by alarming statistics indicating that 50 percent of U.S. black males drop out of high school and that, more black males are involved with the criminal justice system, either in prison, on probation or parole, than in college. These statistics emphasize the need more than ever for the 100 Black Men.

Please join me in saluting the 100 Black Men of Jackson, MS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that I was unavoidably detained last evening, I missed the rollcall vote on House Resolution 192, which called for the House Inspector General to complete a more detailed audit of the House. Had I been present on rollcall vote No. 525 I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO ALMENIA STEVENSON WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Almenia Stevenson Williams as she celebrates her retirement from Anacostia Senior High School in the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Williams was born in Florence, SC to the late Reverend Leo T. Stevens and Utensile Jackson Stevenson. She was educated in the Florence County public schools and later received her bachelor of science degree in business education from Savannah State College and master of arts degree from the Catholic University of America. She furthered her studies at the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University and Trinity College.

Mrs. Williams began her teaching career in the public schools of Cedartown, GA. In 1966, she began her 29-year career with the District of Columbia public schools, serving at Anacostia Senior High School for the past 16 years. Mrs. Williams' dedication to students is not limited to the confines of classroom instruction. She served as the Student Government sponsor and worked with the Future Business Leaders of America.

In addition to dedicated service to her profession, Mrs. Williams is active in numerous civic and professional organizations including the National Business Education Association, Ladies First Aid Union of Churches, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is also a longtime member of Trinidad Baptist Church, where she is the business manager for the chorus choir and the recording secretary for the nurses unit. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mrs. Almenia Stevenson Williams on her retirement and join her family and friends in saluting her on July 22, 1995 at Trinidad Baptist Church.

THE SUPREME COURT

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, July 19, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE SUPREME COURT

The U.S. Supreme Court recently completed its 1994-1995 term. While the subject of the Supreme Court doesn't come up very often in my discussions with Hoosiers, the Court's actions have a significant impact on the lives of all Americans.

This term was marked by the emergence of a strong and unified conservative majority on the Court. The conservatives displayed a desire to reconsider long-settled constitutional principles on everything from race and religion to federalism and privacy. This is a Court with an activist's appetite and reach. It is the political conservatives on the Court who are casting aside precedents and making new law. It is the so-called liberals who are constantly pushing judicial restraint and respect for continuity. The conservatives on the Court who for years have been deploring judicial activism are now judicially very active.

It is premature to say whether this conservative brand of judicial activism will continue in future years. The conservative majority holds a narrow 5-4 edge on the Court, and two of the Justices, O'Connor and Kennedy, appear to be reluctant activists, struggling where possible to find common ground with their more liberal colleagues; and Chief Justice Rehnquist is likely to retire in the near future. Even so, the conservatives are, at least for the time being, making their mark on the Court.

What follows is a summary of the key decisions from this term.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The Court issued several decisions which weaken the legal underpinnings of affirmative action. While all the cases were decided by narrow 5-4 majorities, they reflect a strong aversion to affirmative action programs and will have wide-ranging consequences.

In a case involving a federal highway construction project, the Court held that federal programs designed to benefit minorities are unconstitutional unless they serve a compelling government interest and are narrowly tailored to address past discrimination. The ruling will almost certainly have the effect of curtailing such programs.

In a second case involving the Kansas City school system, the Court ruled that the lower federal courts in Missouri had improperly ordered the state to help pay for a major